

## Fact sheet for planning levels

Planning level	Type of plan					
<b>Nation</b>	<b>National Development Framework</b>					
	<p>Future Wales: The National Plan 2040. Cardiff: Welsh Government, p. 61</p>					

## Facts: Future Wales: The National Plan 2040

### Legal basis

- Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 as amended by Planning (Wales) Act 2015
- Well-being of Future Generations Act
  - Environment Act
  - Planning Act
  - Government of Wales Act

### Competences

- The Welsh Government is required to have a National Development Framework which sets out the policies in relation to the development and use of land.

### Binding force

- Strategic Development Plans at regional level and Local Development Plans need to be in conformity with the National Development Framework.

### Tasks and content

- Providing strategic direction for planning at all scales.

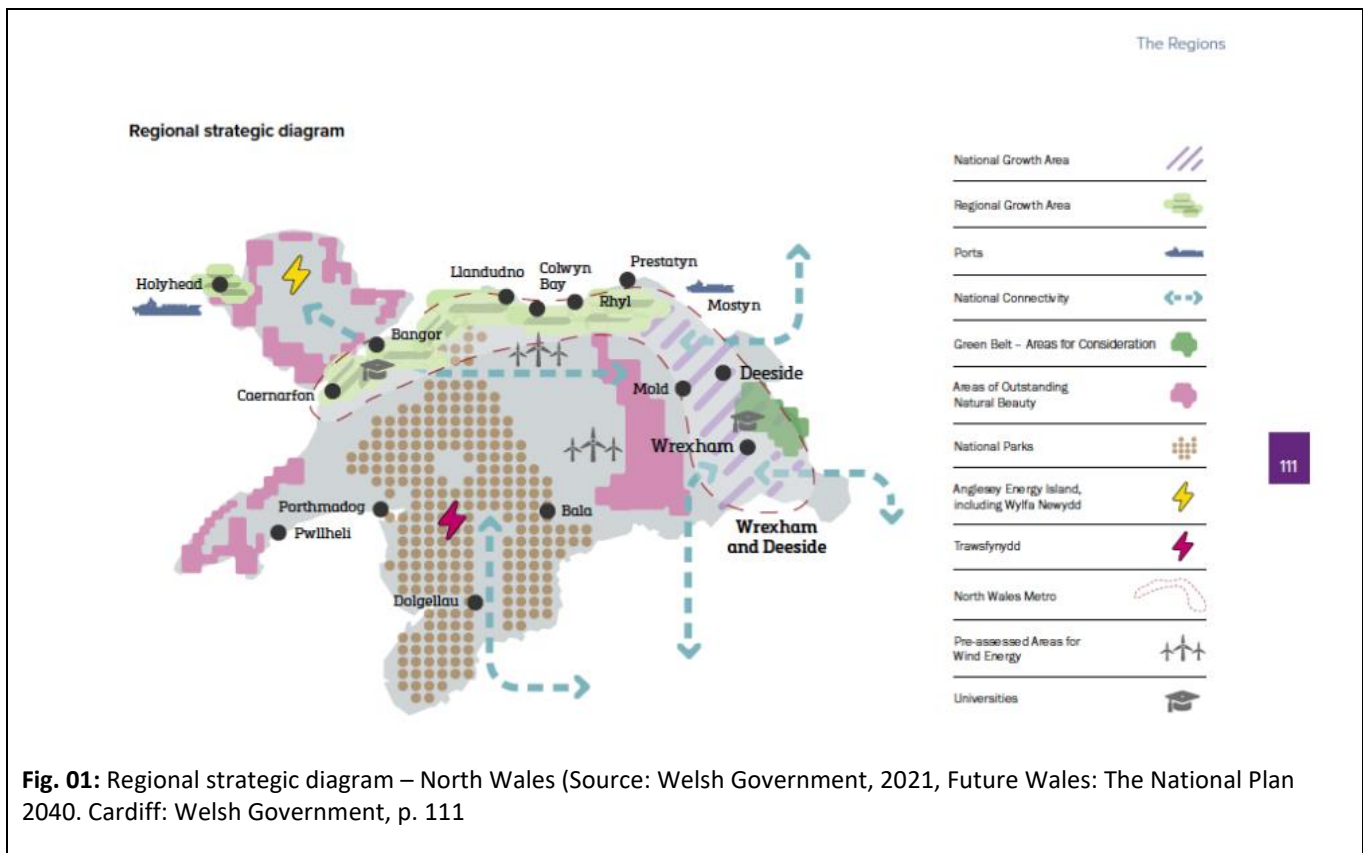
### Process, duration, participation

- The Planning (Wales) Act 2015 marked the decision when the Welsh Assembly decided to draft a National Development Framework.
- Publication and consultation (12 weeks) on the Statement of Public Participation in 2016, setting out the timetable for public engagement.
- Publication and consultation (12 weeks) on Issues, Options and Preferred Option in 2018, identifying the key issues, vision and objectives, and the preferred option following the Sustainability Appraisal (including SEA).
- Consultation (12 weeks) on the Draft National Development Framework
- Publication of the NDF in 2021

### Duration of validity

- The plan covers a 20-year period with a time horizon of 2040 and will be reviewed every five years.

## Details of the plan



**Fig. 01:** Regional strategic diagram – North Wales (Source: Welsh Government, 2021, Future Wales: The National Plan 2040. Cardiff: Welsh Government, p. 111)

## Characteristics

### Location of the area

Wales is one of the four nations of the United Kingdom and the first one to produce a spatial plan at this level. Wales has a population of more than three million that has grown by 8% over the past two decades and is anticipating further growth. More than two-thirds of the population live in the urban areas of Cardiff and Swansea in the south while the rest is rather sparsely populated.

### Initial situation

The Wales Spatial Plan from 2004 was not part of the statutory development plan framework and therefore only had a coordinating function. It was updated in 2008, but had only limited influence on the planning system.

### Particularities of the procedure and/or contents

The plan is part of an emancipation to develop a distinctly Welsh planning system. It aims to increase the number of Welsh speakers and the Welsh language becomes a key consideration in planning decisions.

## Notes and links

<https://gov.wales/future-wales-national-plan-2040> [accessed 29 March 2022]